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Confidential Information

Monday, March 09, 2009

Attn: Edward F. Landrum, Patent Examiner Art Unit 3724

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop: Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313 1450

Re: Office action of December 10, 2008 concerning:

- US Utility Patent application 10/814,504
- by Tracy
- filed on March 31, 2004
- for the "Foot Frame"
- confirmation #6464.

Edward F. Landrum:

I enclose an amended claim section with marked up changes.

Please enter the above amendments to the subject application.

The objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83a is obviated by entry of the enclosed amended claims section. The enclosed amended claim section deletes or cancels all references to "material being in direct contact with the floor" thereby obviating the objection to the drawing under 37 CFR 1.83a.

The objection to the disclosure because of informalities is obviated by entry of the enclosed amended claims section. The enclosed amended claim section deletes or cancels all references to "material being in direct contact with the floor" thereby obviating the objection to the disclosure. Further, the statement found at the "last line of page 1 and the first two lines of page 2" clearly refers to use of a material which would adhere to a floor. "A material which adheres to the floor 3 surface on which the Foot Frame 1 will be used should be chosen to minimize any propensity for the user to slip and fall when mounting or dismounting the Foot Frame 1." The material referenced in this sentence clearly is intended to adhere to a "floor 3". The "floor 3" is identified by the reference number "3" in figures 2, 3, 5, 6. Further, the "sanitary area 4" is clearly indicated in the disclosure and figures 1 through 6 as one of the surfaces of the sanitary material in use. Original claim 1 (filed on March 31, 2004) describes the foot-frame as:

"A device to dispense from a supply of sanitary covering material and for positioning said sanitary covering material on any floor to provide a sanitary area for a user to stand when footwear has been removed comprising:

- (a) A frame having a first, second, third, and fourth side, for placement on a floor to define said sanitary area and guide said sanitary covering material through said frame;
- (b) A dispensing device to supply said sanitary covering material with said dispensing device disposed above said frame, attached to said first side of said frame, and outside of said sanitary area;"

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